

Assistive Technology Ideas for Reading

STRATEGIES & MODIFICATIONS

- Seating position
- Extend time for assignments/tasks
- Use alternative assignments/tasks
- Seating needs (hearing, seeing, distractibility, noise level, traffic pattern, near teacher or peers, etc.)
- Desk (wheelchair accessible, laptop, tilt, flip top desk, lip on side of desk, large table, stand rather than sit, study carrel, etc.)
- Reduce clutter on desk
- Supply appropriate reading level
- Provide means for self-selection of books
- Reduce # of items and/or items per page
- Give take-home/open book/use of notes tests
- Tape tests, untimed tests, or use a reader
- Allow alternative methods to demonstrate comprehension
- Select question format carefully
- Teach and review test taking vocabulary
- Teach strategies to prepare for different types of tests/assignments
- Provide extra cues or prompts
- List critical vocabulary for content material
- Provide discussion questions before reading
- Easy access to books
- Use provided pictures for context
- Discuss assignment before reading
- Skim material before reading
- Use alternative page set-ups
- Use extra space between lines of print
- Change text size, spacing, colors, etc.
- Provide extra cues or prompts
- Choral reading/singing
- Use student interests

LIGHT-TECH

- Slant board
- Book holder
- Page fluffers to help turn pages
- Page extenders to turn pages
- Laminate book pages
- Enlarged print
- High contrast materials
- Tactile enhancements
- Lighting adjustments (more, less, direction)
- Books on tape
- Highlight key points in textbooks and notes
- Rubber tabs to turn page
- Paper clips and a magnet to turn pages
- Loose-leaf notebooks and page protectors
- Word/sentence windows to guide reading
- Eye gaze to choose books
- Large print books
- Pictorial directions (rebus, PCS symbols, etc.)
- Add pictures, symbols, and/or signs
- Label important items in room
- Classroom devices with speech output (language master, talking cards, etc.)
- Teacher created books
- Use pictures with text
- Visual strategies picture/symbol with word
- Letter/word tiles, Scrabble tiles, magnetic
- Highlight syllables
- Highlight target words from larger field of text
- Magnifying ruler/word windows
- Mini-flashlight
- Word searches, crosswords, mazes
- Colored acetate filters
- Enhance/adapt/modify books
- Colored pens for note-taking
- Segment components of stories/words

HIGHER-TECH

- Tape recorder with adapted controls
- Electronic/talking dictionary/thesaurus
- Electronic page turner
- Filmstrip projector with adapted controls
- Devices with speech output (talking picture frames, Big Mack, etc.)
- The "Reading Pen"

COMPUTER/SOFTWARE

- Talking word processors
- Built-in accessibility options in Control Panel
- Large, high resolution monitor
- Screen magnifier
- Change colors on software (background/font)
- Screen magnification software
- Screen/text reading software
- Earphones for speech synthesizer
- Large print output device
- Braille output device
- Refreshable Braille display
- E-text
- Storybook software
- Download books from net and upload to talking word processor
- Scanner or OCR to upload to talking word processor
- Single switch software for reading
- Interactive reading software
- PowerPoint to create clickable lessons
- Enhance with definitions/explanations i.e. Project Intersect <http://cate.uoregon.edu>